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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/723,828 | 11/26/2003 | Andrea Piana | 09420001AA | 9268 |
| 30743 | 7590 | 08/05/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON, P.C. 11491 SUNSET HILLS ROAD SUITE 340 RESTON, VA 20190 | | | CAMERON, ERMA C | |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | 1762 |

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

*Nonresponsive Amendment and Election
of species*
Office Action Summary

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------|
| <i>Nonresponsive Amendment and Election of species</i> Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/723,828 | PIANA ET AL. |
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| Erma Cameron | 1762 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 June 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-39 and 78-101 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-39 and 78-101 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

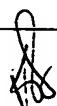
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____



Response to Amendment

1. Claim 101 lacks a status identifier.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 40-77 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected inventions, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on June 27, 2005.

3. The reply filed on 6/27/2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

The applicant was requested to elect ONE species from each of the groupings A), B), C) and D). Instead, the applicant elected C) as a whole. This is not responsive to the request for an election of species.

In A), the applicant is requested to elect ONE species of flame retardant substance from all the substances listed in Claims 10 and 27 – of the 24 or so flame retardant substances in claim 10 and 2 in claim 27, only ONE can be elected.

Likewise, for B), the applicant is requested to elect ONE species of adhesion agent from the list that is in Claim 10.

Likewise, for C), the applicant is requested to elect ONE species of substrate from the TOTAL list of substrates compiled in the claims.

Likewise, for D), the applicant is requested to elect ONE species of crosslinking binder from the six species listed in claim 27.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

4. A copy of the election of species request from the 5/9/2005 office action is reproduced below (note that claim 77 has been removed from grouping A) because claim 77 has been canceled).

5. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- A) the flame retardant substances of Claims 10 and 27;
- B) the adhesion agents of Claim 10;
- C) the type of substrate (claims 11-16, 19-21, 24-26, 28-29, 44-46, 48-49, 51-54 and 58-60);
- D) the crosslinking binders of Claim 27.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erma Cameron whose telephone number is 571-272-1416. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Meeks can be reached on 571-272-1423. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Erma Cameron
ERMA CAMERON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Erma Cameron
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1762

August 1, 2005